

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Listing of Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Original) A gland packing wherein a water swelling mineral is stuck or impregnated into a surface or an inner part of a gland packing base material.
2. (Original) The gland packing according to claim 1, wherein the water swelling mineral is stuck to at least the surface of the gland packing base material and an amount of sticking is equal to or larger than $0.01\mu\text{g}/\text{cm}^2$.
3. (Currently Amended) The gland packing according to claim 1 ~~or~~ 2, wherein the water swelling mineral is water swelling mica.
4. (New) The gland packing according to claim 2, wherein the water swelling mineral is water swelling mica.